no policy of the Government at present for transfer of ISM & H Physicians from one city to another after completion of a fixed term.

(b) No such complaint has been received by the Government.

(c) In view of (b) above, the question does not arise.

TB patients in the country

791. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of T.B. patients at present in the country;

(b) the total number of persons who have died of T.B., so far, in the country; and

(c) the details of treatment which is available in the various hospitals in the country, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) India accounts for nearly 1/3rd of global TB burden. Under the programme, about 1.4 million TB cases are detected and put on treatment every year. It is estimated that almost an equal number of TB cases are detected and treated by Non-Governmental Organizations and private practitioners.

(b) Deaths are not reported under the National TB Control Programme. However, it is estimated that 5 lac people die of TB every year in the country.

(c) To control the diseases, National TB Control Programme is in operation in the country since 1962. The programme is integrated with primary health care infrastructure. To achieve a cure rate of 85% of new sputum positive cases and to detect at least 70% of such cases. Revised National TB Control Programme is being implemented in the country in a phased manner. About 440 million population has already been covered under the revised strategy till now. It is envisaged to cover 500 million population by 2002 and 800 million population by 2004 under the revised strategy. Under the TB Programmes, free of cost diagnostic and treatment facilities are provided to the public. For this purpose, 447 District Tuberculosis Centres (DTCs) and 330 Chest Clinics have been established in the country. In addition to this, in the districts where Revised National TB Control Programme (RNTCP) is under implementation for diagnosis of TB, one microscopy centre for every one lac population has been established except in the tribal areas where one microscopy centre has been established for every 50,000 population.